

REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated May 1, 2006. Claims 1, 2, 4-7, 18-20 and 23-28 are presented for examination, of which Claims 1, 18 and 23 are in independent form. Claims 1, 18 and 23 have been amended to define still more clearly what Applicant regards as his invention. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

The specification has been amended to conform the Summary of Invention section to the amended claims.

Claims 1-2, 4-7, 18-20 and 23-28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as indefinite.

The claims have been carefully reviewed and amended as deemed necessary to ensure that they conform fully to the requirements of Section 112, second paragraph, with special attention to the points raised in paragraph 3 of the Office Action. Specifically, Claims 1, 18 and 23 have been amended to clarify that the controller issues the order to the image generator, not to the image forming unit. Therefore, the image generator which has received the order from the controller carries out an initialization or a reset in response to the order. The image forming unit does not carry out the order because the controller does not issue the order to the image forming unit. Accordingly, if an error occurs in the image generator, the image forming unit need not to stop since the order to perform an initialization or a reset is not issued to the image forming unit. It is believed that the rejection under Section 112, second paragraph, has been obviated, and its withdrawal is therefore respectfully requested.

The other claims in this application are each dependent from one or another of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the

invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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